

REMARKS

Summary of Office Action

Claims 1-4, 6, 11-12, 16 and 18-19 stand rejected under §102(b) as allegedly being anticipated by Furuwari et al. (JP 11-142841).

Claims 5, 10 and 17 stand rejected under §103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Furuwari et al. in view of Shiotani et al. (JP 2001-338512).

Claims 7 and 13 stand rejected under §103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Furuwari et al. in view of Nakano (US 2003/0053008).

Claims 8, 14 and 20 stand rejected under §103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Furuwari et al. in view of Matsuda et al. (US 2002/0167626).

Claims 9 and 15 stand rejected under §103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Furuwari et al. in view of Lee et al. (US 2001/0003471).

Claim 13 stands rejected under §103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Furuwari et al. and Shiotani et al. further in view of Nakano.

Claim 14 stands rejected under §103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Furuwari et al. and Shiotani et al. further in view of Matsuda et al.

Claim 15 stands rejected under §103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Furuwari et al. and Shiotani et al. further in view of Lee et al.

Claims 19 and 20 stand objected to because of minor informalities.

Summary of Amendment

Claims 19 and 20 have been amended to correct the typographical errors indicated in the Office Action. No new matter has been entered. Claims 1-20 are pending for further consideration.

Claim Objections

Claim 19 and 20 stand objected to because of minor informalities. Applicant has amended claims 19 and 20 as suggested by the Examiner. Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that the objection to the claim be withdrawn.

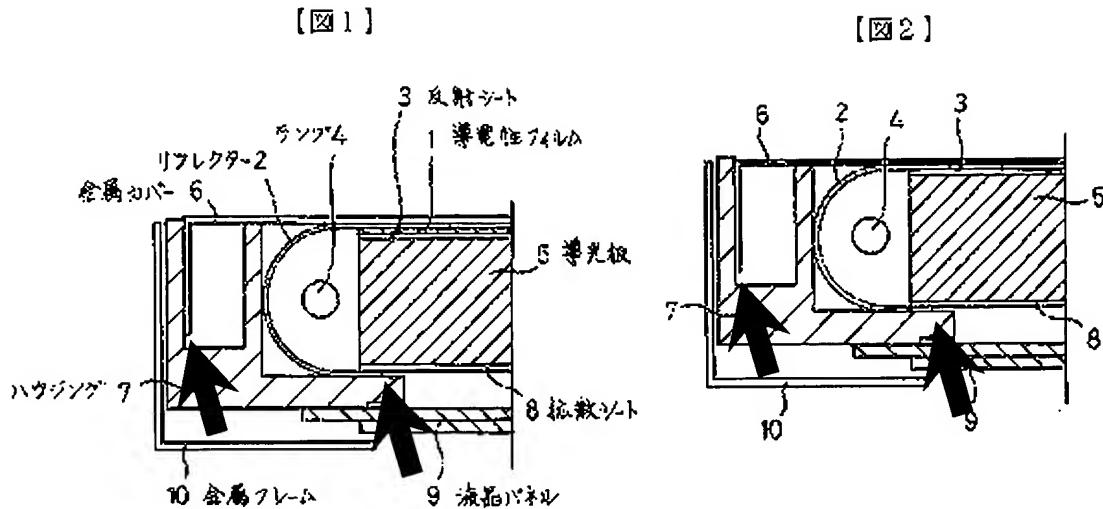
All Claims Comply With §102

Claims 1-4, 6, 11-12, 16 and 18-19 stand rejected under §102(b) as allegedly being anticipated by Furuwari et al. Applicant traverses these rejections for the following reasons.

Independent claim 1 recites, in part, “a bottom cover having an end portion that *wraps around* the reflection sheet.” (Emphasis added.) Independent claim 11 recites, in part, “an end portion of the bottom cover extending to the outer side of the reflection sheet *wraps around* the reflection sheet.” (Emphasis added.) Independent claim 18 recites, in part, “a bottom cover along a rear side of the reflection plate having an end portion that *wraps around* the reflection sheet.” (Emphasis added.) As asserted in the previous response, Furuwari et al. fails to teach or suggest at least these features.

The Office asserts that Furuwari et al. teaches “a bottom cover (element 6) having an end portion that wraps around the reflection sheet to support the reflection sheet (wherein the bottom cover is formed to overlap two adjacent sides of the reflection sheet, therefore, is considered to

be wrapping around the reflection sheet).” (OA: p. 3, lns. 1-2.) FIGs. 1 and 2 of Furuwari et al.’s device is replicated below:



As shown above, element 6 of Furuwari et al. does not “wrap around” reflector 2. The Office asserts that because element 6 is formed to “overlap two adjacent sides,” element 6 “wraps around” reflector 2. Applicant disagrees.

FIGs. 1 and 2 of Furuwari et al. show that the end portions of reflector 2 extends over and around lamp 4 and ends at the bottom portion of light guide plate 5 as shown by the arrow. Element 2, therefore, has at least three sides. Element 6, at best, overlaps one side (i.e. top side) and partially overlaps a second side (i.e., left side). Hence, element 6 partially overlapping two adjacent sides as disclosed in Furuwari et al. is not sufficient to “wrap around” reflector 2 as alleged in the Office Action. Hence, Applicant respectfully asserts that Furuwari et al. does not anticipate independent claims 1, 11, and 18 for at least these reasons.

Claims 2-4, 6, 12, 16, and 19 depend from their respective base claims 1, 11, and 18.

Hence, for at least the reasons stated above, Furuwari et al. fails to anticipate claims 2-4, 6, 12, 16, and 19 due to their dependency to one of claims 1, 11, and 18. Accordingly, Applicant asserts that Furuwari et al. fails to anticipate claims 1-4, 6, 11, 12, 16, 18, and 19 for at least the reasons stated above and requests that that the §102 rejection be withdrawn.

All Claims Comply With §103

Claims 5, 10 and 17 stand rejected under §103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Furuwari et al. in view of Shiotani et al. Claims 7 and 13 stand rejected under §103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Furuwari et al. in view of Nakano. Claims 8, 14 and 20 stand rejected under §103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Furuwari et al. in view of Matsuda et al. Claims 9 and 15 stand rejected under §103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Furuwari et al. in view of Lee et al. Claim 13 stands rejected under §103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Furuwari et al. and Shiotani et al. further in view of Nakano. Claim 14 stands rejected under §103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Furuwari et al. and Shiotani et al. further in view of Matsuda et al. Claim 15 stands rejected under §103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Furuwari et al. and Shiotani et al. further in view of Lee et al..

Claims 5, 7-10, 13-15, 17, and 20 all depend from one of independent claims 1, 11, and 18. As asserted in the previous response filed December 2, 2005 and incorporated herein by reference, Applicant asserts that Shiotani et al., Nakano, Matsuda et al., and Lee et al. all fail to cure the deficiencies of Furuwari et al. explained above. Hence, for at least the reasons described above, Furuwari et al., Shiotani et al., Nakano, Matsuda et al., and Lee et al., whether taken individually or in combination, fail to teach or suggest all the features of claims 5, 7-10,

13-15, 17, and 20 due to their dependency to their respective base claims 1, 11, and 18.

Accordingly, Applicant requests that the §103 rejection to these claims be withdrawn.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, reconsideration and timely allowance of the pending claims are respectfully requested. Should the Examiner feel that there are any issues outstanding after consideration of the response, the Examiner is invited to contact the Applicants' undersigned representative to expedite prosecution.

If there are any other fees due in connection with the filing of this response, please charge the fees to our Deposit Account No. 50-0310. If a fee is required for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 not accounted for above, such an extension is requested and the fee should also be charged to our Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

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